

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is hereby requested. Claim 11 has been amended to depend from Claim 10. Therefore, reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 10, 12 and 17-20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 10, 12 and 17 have been amended to be in independent claim format and to include all of the limitations of their appropriate base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 10 and 12 have also been amended to clarify an antecedent basis for the phrase "an opening at at least one end of at least one of the portions...". Claim 12 has also been amended to clarify an antecedent basis for the "monolithically incorporated post".

Please cancel Claims 1, 6 and 7.

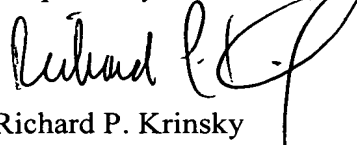
Claims 2, 8, 9 and 13-16 have been amended to change their dependencies.

In view of the above, independent Claims 10, 12 and 17 are in condition for allowance and such is respectfully requested. Dependent Claims 2-5, 8-9, 11, 13-16 and 18-20 are in condition for allowance at least for the same reasons as their respective independent claims and for their own limitations as well, and such is respectfully requested.

In view of all of the above, the Application is now in condition for allowance and such is hereby requested.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (20341/72630).

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Claim Summary Document